A DECLARATION FROM BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

With the Additionall Reasons last presented to his MAIESTY.

Sabbathi 12. *Martii* 1641.

Ordered by the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, that the Declaration with the additionall Reasons last presented to his Majesty, shall be forthwith Printed and published.

Jo. Brown Clerick. Parl.
H. Elsine. Cler. Parl. D. Com.

Whereunto is annexed, His Maiesties SPEECH to the Committe, the 9 of *March*, 1641. when they presented the DECLARATION of both Houses of *Parliament* at *New-maket*.

London, Printed by *R. Oulton* & *G. Dexter*. 1641.

A DECLARATION TO HIS MAIESTY.

May it pleaſe your moſt excellent Majeſty,

Although the expreſſions of your Majeſties Meſſage, the ſecond of this inſtant Moneth, doe give juſt cauſe of ſorrow to Us your Majeſties *faithfull* Subjects, the Lords and Commons in *Parliament*; yet it is not without ſome mixture of Confidence and Hope, conſidering they proceed from the Miſapprehenſions of our Actions and Intentions, which having no ground of *truth* or *reality*, may, by your Majeſties Juſtice and Wiſdome be removed, when your Majeſty ſhall be fully informed, that theſe *feares* and *jealouſies* of Ours, which your Majeſty thinks to be Cauſeleſſe, and without juſt grounds, doe neceſſarily and clearly ariſe from theſe dangers and diſtempers, into which the miſchievous and evill Counſellors about you have brought this Kingdome: and that thoſe other *feares* and *jealouſies* by which your favour, your Royall preſence and Confidence have bin withdrawn from your *Parliament*, have no foundation or ſubſiſtence in any Action, Intention, or Miſcarriage of Ours, but are meerly grounded upon the falſhood and malice of thoſe, who for the ſupporting and fomenting their own wicked deſignes againſt

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the Religion and Peace of this Kingdome, doe seek to deprive your Majesty of the strength and affection of your People, them of your Grace and protection; and thereby to subject both your Royall person and the whole Kingdome to ruine and destruction.

To satisfie your Majesties Judgement and Conscience in both these points, We desire to make a cleare and free *Declaration*, of the Causes of our *feares* and *jealousies*, which We offer to your Majestie in these particulars.

1. That the designe of Altering Religion, in this, and in your other Kingdomes, hath bin potently carryed on by those in greatest Authority about you, for divers yeares together; and that the Queens Agent at *Rome*, and the Popes Agent at *Nuncio* here, are not only evidences of this designe, but have bin great Actors in it.

2. That the Warres with *Scotland* was procured to make way for this Intention, and chiefly incited and fomented by the Papists, and others Popishly affected, whereof we have many evidences, especially their free and generall Contribution to it.

3. That the Rebellion in *Ireland* was framed and contrived here in *England*; and that the English Papists should have risen about the same time. We have divers testimonies and Advertisements from *Ireland*; and that it is a common speech among the Rebells, wherewith concurre other Evidences and observations of the suspitious Meetings and Consultations; the tumultuary and seditious carriage of those of that Religion, in divers parts of the Kingdome, about the breaking out of the Irish Rebellion; the Deposition of *O Connelis*; the Information of Mr *Cole* Minister; the Letter of *Prestram Whitcomb*; the Deposition of *Thomas Grant*; and many others, which we may produce doe all agree in this.

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4. The publicke *Declaration* of the Lords, Gentlemen, and others of the *Pale*, that they would joyne with the Rebells, whom they call the Irish Army, or any other, to recover unto his Majesty his Royall Prerogative, wrested from him by the *Puritan* Faction in the Houses of *Parliament* in *England*, and to maintaine the same against all others; as also to maintaine Episcopall jurisdiction, and thereof, these two being the Quarrells upon which his Majesties late Army in the North should have bin incensed against us.

5. The great Cause we have to doubt, that the late designe, styled The Queens pious Intention, was for the Alteration of Religion in this Kingdome: for successe whereof the Popes *Nuntio*, and *Count Rosetti* injoyned Fasting and Praying to be observed every week, by the English Papists, which appeared to Us by one of the Originall directions directed by him to a Priest in Lancashire.

6. The boldnes of the Rebells in affirming *They doe nothing but by Authority from the King*, that they call themselves the *Queens Army*, that the Prey or Booty which they take from the English, they marke with the Queens Marke. That their purpose was to come into *England*, after they had done in *Ireland*, and sundry other things of this kind proved by *O Connely*, and divers others; especially the aforementioned Letter from *Treasam whitecombe* the Major of *Kinsale* to his Brother *Benjamin whitecomb*, wherein there is this passage, that *Many other speeches they utter about Religion and our Court of England, which he dares not commit to paper.*

The many old Attempts to provoke your Majesties late Army, and the Army of the Scots, and to raise a Faction in the City of *London* and other parts of the Kingdome, that those who have bin Actors in this businesse, have had their

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Dependance, Countenance and Incouragement from the Court, witneſſe the Treaſon wherof Mr *Germin* and others ſtand accuſed, who were tranſported beyond Sea by Warrant under your Majeſties hand, after your Majeſty had given Aſſurance to your *Parliament* that your Majeſty had layd a ſtrict command upon all your Servants, that none of them ſhould depart from Court; and that dangerous Petition delivered to Captaine *Legge* by your Majeſties owne hand, accompanied with a Direction ſigned with *C. R.*

The falſe and ſcandalous Accuſation againſt the Lord *Kymbolton*, and the Five *Members* of the Houſe of Commons, tendred to the *Parliament*, by your Majeſties owne Command, endeavouring to be juſtified in the City by your own preſence and perſwaſion; and to be put in execution upon their Perſons; by your Majeſties demand of them in the *Houſe* of *Commons*, in ſo terrible and violent a manner, as farre exceeded all former breaches of Priviledges of *Parliament*, acted by your Majeſty, or any of your Predeceſſors: And whatſoever your own Intentions were, divers bloody and deſperate perſons, which attended your Majeſty, diſcovered their affections and reſolutions to have maſſacred and deſtroyed the *Members* of that *Houſe*; if the abſence of thoſe Perſons accuſed, had not by *Gods* providence ſtopt the giving of that Word which they expected, for the ſetting them upon that barbarous and bloody deſigne.

The Liſting of ſo many Officers, Souldiers and others, putting them into pay, and under Command of Colonells, keeping them at *white Hall*, Feaſting and carouſing them in an unuſuall manner, thereby maintaining them in the violent Aſſaults, and other injuries, which they offered to divers of your Subjects, comming that way in a Lawfull

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and peaceable manner; the carrying them out of the Town, and keeping them in so long a Pay, after which they were told by the Lord *Digby* that *the King removed on purpose they might not be trampled in the durt*; and endeavouring to ingage the Gentlemen of the Innes of Court in the same course; the plotting and designing of a perpetuall Guard about your Majesty; the labouring to infuse into your Majesties Subjects an evill opinion of the *Parliament* throughout the whole Kingdome, and other symptomes of a disposition of raysing Armes, and dividing your People by a Civill Warre, in which Combustion *Ireland* must needs be lost, and this Realme miserably wasted and consumed, if not wholly ruined and destroyed.

That the Lord Digby *should presume to Councell your Majesty to declare your selfe, and to retire to a place of strength in this Kingdome, and to perswade you that you could not be safe among your People, and yet should have such Credit with you as to be sent away by your Warrant to Sir* John Pennington, *to land him beyond the Sea, where he took that transcendent boldnesse to vent his owne Traiterous conceptions in the Letter to the Queene*, offering to entertaine a correspondencie with her Majesty by Cyphers, intimating some service which he might doe in those parts; for which he desired your Majesties Intentions, whereby in all probability he intended the procureing of some Forreigne Forces to strengthen your Majestie in that condition to which hee would have brought: which false and malicious Councell and advice, we have great cause to doubt, made too deep an impression in your Majesty, considering the course you are now pleased to take, of absenting your selfe from your Parliament, and carrying the Prince with you, which seems to expresse a purpose in your Majesty to keep your self in a Readinesse for the acting of it.

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The manifold Advertisements we have had from *Rome*, *Venice*, *Paris*, and other parts, that they still expect that you have some great designe in hand, for the Altering of Religion; the breaking neck of your Parliament; that you will yet find meanes to compose that designe; that the Popes *Nuncio* hath solicited the Kings of *France* and *Spaine* to lend your Majestie 4000. men a piece to helpe to maintain your Royalty against the Parliament; *and that a forreigne force seemeth to be the most pernicious and malevolent designe of all the rest*, because no man can believe you will give up your people and your Kingdomes to be spoiled by strangers, if you did not likewise intend both to change your own profession in Religion, and the publicke profession of the Kingdome, that so you might still be more assured of those forreigne states of the Popish Religion, for your future support and defence: but we hope God will direct your Majestie to better Councells.

These are some of the grounds of our fears and jealousies, which made us so earnestly to implore your royall Authoritie and Protection for our defence and securitie, in all the wayes of humilitie and submission, which being denyed by your Majestie, seduced by evill Counsells, We doe with sorrow, for the great and imavoydable miseries which is like to fall upon your own person and your Kingdomes, apply our selves to the use of that Power, for the securitie and defence of both, which by the fundamentall Laws and Constitutions of this Kingdome, resides in Us: Yet still resolving to keep our selves within the bounds of Faithfull nesse and Allegeance to your sacred person, and your Crownes: So as to the Second sort of *jealousies* and *feares*, of Us expressed by your Majestie, We shall give a shorter, but as true and as faithfull an Answere.

Whereas your Majesty is pleased to say that for your re-

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ſiding neere your *Parliament*, you wiſh it might be ſo ſafe and honourable that you had noe cauſe to abſent your ſelfe from White-hall, this we take as the greateſt breach of the priviledges of Parliament that can be offered, the heavieſt miſeri e to your ſelfe and jniurie to us, and Impuuation upon us, that can be imagined, the moſt miſcheivous effect of evill Counſells, it ſootes up the foundation of that ſafety and honour which the Crowne affords, it ſeems as much as may be to caſt upon the *Parliament* ſuch a charge as is inconſiſtent with the nature of your great Counſel being body whereof your *Majeſty* it the head, it ſtriks at the very being both of King and Parliament depriving our *Majeſty* in your owne apprehenſion of their fidelity and them of your protection, which are the mutual bonds of Government and ſubiection.

We have according to your *Maieſties* deſire laid our hands upon our hearts, we have asked our ſelves in the ſtricteſt examinaiion of our Conſbiencys, we have ſearcht our affections, our thoughts, conſidered our a&ions, and we find none that dan give your *Maieſty* juſt occaſion to abſent your ſelf from White-hall and the Parliament but that you may with more honour and ſafety continue there then in any other place, your *Maieſty* laies a generall Taxe uprn us, if you will be graciouſly pleaſed to let us konw the particulars wee ſhall give a cleere and ſatisfactory anſwer but what hope can we have of ever giving your *Maieſty* ſatisfaction when theie particulars which you beene made beleeve were true yet being produced and made known to us appeared to be falſe, and your *Maieſty* notwithſtanding will neither puniſh nor produce the authors, but goe on to contract Jealouſies and feares upon generall and uncertaine grounds affording us no meanes or poſſibility of particular Anſwer to the cleering of ourſelves: For proofe whereof we beſeech your *Maieſty* to conſider theſe Inſtances.

The ſpeeches alledged to be ſpoken in a meeting by divers Members of both *Houſes* at *Kenſington*, concerninga purpoſe of reſtraining the Queene and Prince which after it was denied and diſavowed, yet your *Maieſty* refuſed to Name the Authorsthough humbly deſired of both *Houses*

The report of Articles framed againſt the Queene given out by ſome of neere relation unto the Court, but when it was publiquely and conſtantly diſclaimed, the Credit ſeemed to bt with-drawn from it but the Authors being kept ſafe will alwaies be in readineſſe for exploits of the ſame kind wherewith your Majeſtie and the Queene will be troubled if this courſe be taken to cheriſh and ſecure them in ſuch wicked and mallcious ſlanders.

The heavy Charge and accuſation of the Lord *Kimbol.ton* and the five Members of the *Houſe* of *Commons*, who refuſe no Triall and examination which may ſtand with the Privilcdge of Parliament yet no Author,noe witneſſes produced, againſt whom they may have reparation for that great jnjury and infamy caſt upon them notwithſtanding three ſeverall Petitions of both Houſes, the Authority of two Acts of Parliament vouched in the laſt of theſe Petitions.

We beſeech your Majeſtie to conſider in what eſtate you are, how eaſy and faire a way you have to happineſſe, honourabe greatneſſe, plenty and ſecurity if you will joyn with the Parliamentand your faithfull Subjects in defence of the *Religion* and the publique good of the Kingdom: This is all we expect from you and for this wee ſhall returne to you our lives and fortunes & utmoſt endeavours to ſupport your Maieſty, your Soveraigney and power over us, but it is not words that can ſecure us in theſe our humble deſires, we cannot but two well and ſorowfully remember what gracious Meſſages we had from you this Summer, when with your privity the bringing uthp e Ar-

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my was in agitation, we cannot but with the like affection recal to our minds, how not two dayes before hou gave direlion for the above mentioned accuſation and your owne comming unto the Commons Houſe, that houſe received a meſſage that you would alwaies hav care of their Privtledges as of your owne Prerogative, of the ſafety of their Perſons as of your owne Childr-n, that which wee expect which will give us aſſurance that you have noe thoughts but of peace and Iuſtice to your people muſt be ſome reall effect of your goodneſſe to them in graunting thoſe which the preſent neceſſity of the Kingdom doe inforceus to deſire, and in the firſtplace that your Majeſty will be graciouſly pleaſed to put from you thoſe wicked and miſcheivous Counſellors which have cauſed all theſe dangers and diſtractions and continue your own reſidence and the Princes neer London and the parliament Which we hope wilbe a happy beginning of contentment and confidence betwixt your Majeſty and your People, and be followed with many ſucceeding bleſſings of honour and greatneſſe to your Msjeſty, and of ſecurity and proſperity to them.

The Additionall Reaſons.

THe Lords and Com:nons have commanded us to preſent unto your Majeſty this further Addition to their former Declaration.

That your Majeſties return and continuance neer the Parliament is a matter in their apprehenſion of ſo great neceſſity and importance towards the preſervation of your Royall Perſon and your Kingdoms, that they cannot think they have diſchatged their duties in the ſingle expreſ of their deſire, unleſſe the adde ſome further Reaſons to back it with.

I. *Your Majeſties abſenſe will cauſe men to believe, that it is out of deſigne to diſcourage the undertakers, and hinder the other Proviſions for raiſing money for defence of* Ireland.

II. *It will very much hearten the Rebells there, and diſaffected perſons in this Kingddme, as being an evidence, and effect of the jealouſie and diviſion betwixt your Majeſty, and your people.*

III. *That it will much weaken and withdraw the affection of the Subject from your Maieſty, without which a Prince is deprived of his chiefeſt ſtrength and luſtre, and left naked in the greateſt dangers and miſeries, that can be imagined.*

IIII. *That it will invite and encourage the Enemies of our Religion and the State in Forreigne Parts, to the attempting and acting of their evill deſignes and intentions towards us.*

V. *That it cauſeth a great interuption in the proceedings of Parliament.*

Theſe conſiderations threaten ſo great danger to your Majeſties perſon and to all your Dominions, that as your Majeſties great Councell,

they hold it necessary to represent to You, this their faithfull Advise that so whatsoever followeth, they may be exculed before God and Man.

His Maiesties Speech to the Committee, the 9. of *March*, 1641. when they presented the Declaration of both Houses of Parliament at *New-market*.

I Am confident that you expect not I should give you a speedy Answer to this strange and unexpected Declaration. And I am sorry (in the distraction of this Kingdome you should think this way of addresse to be more convenient, than that purposed by my Message of the 20 of Ianuary last to both Houses.

As concerning the grounds of your feares and Iealousies, I will take time to answer particularly, and doubt not but I shall doe it, to the satisfaction of the whole world. God in his good time will I hope, discover the secrets of all Plots and Treasons; and then I shall stand right in the eyes of all my people. In the mean time, I must tell you, That I rather expected a Vindication for the imputation layd on me in Mr PYMS Speech, than that any more generall Rumors and Discourses should get redit with you.

For my feares and doubts, I did not think they should have beene thought so groundlesse or triviall, while so many seditious Pamphlets and Sermons are looked upon, and so great Tumults are remembred, unpunished, uninquired into: I still confesse my fears, and call God to witnesse, That they are greater for the true Protestant Profession, My People and Laws, than for my own Right or safety, though I must tell you, I conceive that none of these are free form danger.

What would you have? Have I violated your Lawes? Have I denyed to passe any one Bill for the ease and security of my Subjects? I do not aske you what you have done for me.

Have any of my People been transport with Feares and Apprehensions? I have offered as free and generall a Pardon, as your selves can devise. All this considered, There is a Iudgement from Heaven upon this Nation, if these distractions continue.

God so deal with Me and Mine, as all my Thoughts and Intentions are upright for the maintenance of the true Protestant Profession, and for the Observation and Preversation of the Laws of this Land: And I hope, God will blesse and assist those Laws for My preservation.

As for the Additionall Declation, you are to expect an Answer to it, when you shall receive the Answer to the Declaration it selfe.

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